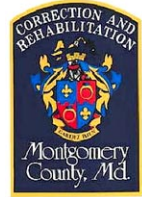




**Montgomery County Department of Correction and Rehabilitation
Pre-Release and Reentry Services**



**MONTGOMERY COUNTY PRE-RELEASE SERVICES
COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING AGENDA**

**PRRS Community Advisory Committee Meeting
November 18, 2010 @7:30am
Agenda**

- 1. Welcome and Introductions**
 - a. Co-Chair Dr. Diane Scott-Jones
 - b. Co-Chairs Thomas DeGonia II, Esquire
- 2. PRRS Chief's Report Highlights/Updates**
 - a. Second Chance Act Grant Award for Employment-Related Computer Literacy Curriculum
 - b. Close to Home Family Reentry Training
 - c. PRRS Advances to 2nd round of Harvard University's Innovation Award Competition
- 3. Post-Release Support for Released PRRS Residents**
 - a. Parole and Probation
 - b. DOCR Recidivism Study
- 4. Identifying Performance Outcomes for PRRS¹**
 - a. Defining key indicators of excellence in Reentry Services
 - b. Quarterly reports of indicators at CAC meetings
- 5. Topics for CAC Meetings in CY'11¹**
- 6. Closing Comments from CAC members (8:50am)**
- 7. Adjournment (9:00am)**

¹ See reverse side of agenda for more description

Tentative Schedule of CAC Meetings in Calendar Year 2011

- **Thursday, January 20, 2011**
- **Thursday April 21, 2011**
- **Thursday, July 21, 2011**
- **Thursday, November 17, 2011**

Performance Outcomes for PRRS

PRRS will provide future CAC meetings with a statistical review of key indicators that aim to demonstrate the effectiveness of its efforts to provide excellent reentry services. During the November meeting, the CAC Chairs will solicit ideas about what indicators are of interest to the CAC.

While there is a frequent effort by policy makers and laypersons to identify recidivism as the single most important reentry outcome, researchers are increasingly recognizing that this proves to be a poor indicator of performance for reentry programs. Recidivism is most directly affected by the “risk” of the population served by a program (i.e. risk includes criminal history, socio-economic background, mental and physical health, work and education background, substance abuse background, housing stability, and family/social support), by specific policies and practices of stakeholders within the criminal justice system including police, probation and parole, prosecutors, judges, and legislature that are outside the span of control of corrections (i.e. probationary revocation policies), and by the quality of the evaluation study and the availability of data. Good indicators of performance, by contrast, are linked directly to the specific activities, resources, and services provided by a program such as PRRS.

Here are a couple of examples of proposed indicators of performance for the employment and education services provided by PRRS:

1. #/% employed (snapshot, at release, and 60 days post-release)
 - of those employed, hours, wages, tenure, type of job (transitional or permanent) and economic sector of job
 - of those employed, % returning to previous jobs and % obtaining new jobs
 - Time required to find a new job
 - Intermediate outcomes are #/% who obtain their identification documents; #/% who obtain a resume; #/% who develop a short-term and long-term career plans
2. #/% enrolled in education programs who lack secondary diplomas
 - #/% without secondary diplomas in GED and high school programs
 - # who receive diplomas
 - # who remain in programs 60 days post-release
 - #/% who lack functional literacy provided with tutors or referred to Adult Basic Education Programs
3. #/% pursuing higher education or certificate programs

Other domains of treatment include: Mental and Physical Health, Substance and Drug Abuse, Housing, Family, Relationships, and Pro-Social attitudes. Finally, other indicators of performance will measure program compliance and can include metrics on completion, suspension, revocation, and escape rates.

Suggested Future Meeting Topics for PRRS

The CAC chairs will solicit topics of interest for the quarterly meetings to be held in 2011. Over the past year, the CAC meetings have focused in the following areas: Work Release & Employment (November 2009); White Flint Master Plan (January 2010); Housing (April 2010); Mental health and Substance Abuse (July 2010). There may be interest in revisiting some of these topics. Some additional topics discussed previously include:

- Review of PRRS Strategic Plan
- Barriers to reentry
- Family support and services
- Role of faith-based organizations (topic discussed several years ago)